

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

Claims 6 and 7 have been previously cancelled. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

1. (Currently Amended) A method for forming MOSFETs comprising:
  - providing a semiconductor substrate having a source region, a channel region, and a drain region, wherein the channel region resides between the source and drain regions and a gate region resides over the channel region of the substrate;
  - forming a silicon-germanium layer within said substrate in each of the source and drain regions in the substrate and below a plane defined by an uppermost surface of the substrate, the silicon-germanium layer configured to exert a compressive stress in the channel region of the substrate;
  - forming a silicon layer outwardly from said substrate and the silicon-germanium layer in each of the source and drain regions; and
  - forming a silicide layer in each of the source and drain regions.
2. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 1, wherein forming the silicide layer comprises:
  - depositing a reactive metal outwardly from the silicon layer and the silicon-germanium layer in each of the source and drain regions;
  - reacting the reactive metal with at least the silicon layer; and
  - selectively removing non-reacted reactive metal from the substrate.

3. (Original) The method of Claim 2, wherein the reactive metal is selected from the group consisting of titanium, cobalt, nickel, and tungsten.

4. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 1, wherein forming the silicide layer comprises:

depositing a reactive metal outwardly from the silicon layer and the silicon-germanium layer in each of the source and drain regions;

reacting the reactive metal with the silicon layer and a portion of the silicon-germanium layer; and

selectively removing non-reactive metal from the substrate.

5. (Original) The method of Claim 4, wherein the reactive metal is selected from the group consisting of titanium, cobalt, nickel, and tungsten.

6. (Canceled).

7. (Canceled).

8. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein the silicon layer has a thickness between approximately 25Å and 150Å.

9. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein the silicon layer has a thickness of approximately 75Å.

10. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein the silicon-germanium layer has a thickness between approximately 200Å and 300Å.

11. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein the silicon-germanium layer is an epitaxial layer.

12. (Currently Amended) A method for forming MOSFETs, comprising:  
providing a substrate having a source region, a gate region, and a drain region;  
forming, within the substrate and below a plane defined by an uppermost surface of the substrate, a silicon-germanium region in each of the source and drain regions;  
forming a silicon layer outwardly from the substrate and the silicon-germanium layer in each of the source and drain regions, the silicon layer having a thickness between approximately 25Å and 150Å;  
depositing a reactive metal outwardly from the silicon layer in each of the source and drain regions;  
reacting the reactive metal with at least a portion of the silicon layer; and  
selectively removing non-reacted reactive metal from the substrate to form a silicide layer in each of the source and drain regions.

13. (Original) The method of Claim 12, wherein the reactive metal is selected from the group consisting of titanium, cobalt, nickel, and tungsten.

14. (Original) The method of Claim 12, wherein reacting the reactive metal with at least a portion of the silicon layer comprises reacting the reactive metal with the whole silicon layer and a portion of the silicon-germanium layer.

15. (Original) The method of Claim 12, wherein the silicon layer has a thickness of approximately 75Å.

16. (Original) The method of Claim 12, wherein the silicon-germanium layer has a thickness between approximately 200Å and 300Å.

17. (Withdrawn) A system for forming MOSFETs, comprising:  
a substrate having a source region, a gate region, and a drain region;  
an epitaxial silicon-germanium layer formed in each of the source and drain regions;  
a source formed in the source region;  
a drain formed in the drain region;  
a silicon layer disposed outwardly from the silicon-germanium layer in each of the source and drain regions; and  
a reactive metal layer formed in each of the source and drain regions.

18. (Withdrawn) The system of Claim 18, wherein the silicon-germanium layer in each of the source and drain regions is formed within the substrate.

19. (Withdrawn) The system of Claim 18, wherein the silicon-germanium layer in each of the source and drain regions is formed outwardly from the substrate.

20. (Withdrawn) The system of Claim 18, wherein the silicon layer has a thickness between approximately 25Å and 150Å.